

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EA-11 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 SAM-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 COME-00 AID-20 FRB-02

OPIC-12 AGR-20 DRC-01 /176 W
----- 093395

R 071340Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4173

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PINT, PFOR, BY, CH, GW

SUBJECT: BURUNDI GIVES TEXTILE PROJECT TO CHINESE

REF BUJUMBURA A-84

1. GERMAN COUNSELOR, JANETSCHEK INFORMED CHARGE FEBRUARY 06 THAT WEST GERMAN EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED FORMAL NOTIFICATION FROM BURUNDI MOFA THAT GRB HAS DECIDED REJECT WESTERN OFFER TO REVIVE BURUTEX AND INSTEAD GO AHEAD WITH CHINESE TEXTILE PROJECT. NOTE ASKS FOR DISCUSSIONS ON 5.4 MILLION DEUTSCHMARK KREDITANSTALT LOAN ALREADY DISBURSED TO BURUNDI IN CONNECTION WESTERN PROJECT.

2. JANETSCHEK COMMENTED THAT FRG NOT IN HABIT GIVING ASSISTANCE
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AND THEN ASKING FOR IT BACK, AND HAD BEEN CONVINCED VIABILITY

BURUTEX PROPOSAL. BURUTEX COULD HAVE GONE INTO PRODUCTION IN A FEW MONTHS, JANETSCHEK BELIEVES AT LEAST THREE YEARS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR CHINESE PROJECT TO BEAR FRUIT. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, FRG IS INSISTING ON RETURN ENTIRE KREDITANSTALT LOAN AT ONCE, AND THREATENING TO REFUSE FURTHER LOANS, INCLUDING THREE MILLION MARK LOAN PLANNED FOR EXPANSION BUJUMBURA UTILITY NETWORKS. (JANETSCHEK SUSPECTS, HOWEVER, THAT AT LAST MINUTE BONN WILL SOFTEN ITS POSITION.)

3. IN JANETSCHEK'S VIEW, OUTCOME REFLECTS SIMBANANIYE'S INFLUENCE AND HIS TENDENCY TO PRESS TOWARD POLITICAL OBJECTIVES WITHOUT CONSIDERING ECONOMIC RESULTS.

4. COMMENT: CLEARLY A VICTORY FOR SIMBANANIYE. HIS MOTIVES ARE LESS CLEAR, BUT PROBABLY AN AMALGAM OF DISTASTE FOR FOREIGN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, DESIRE TO EXPAND COOPERATION WITH CHINA, AND FACT HE IS IDENTIFIED WITH CHINESE OPTION AND HIS FORTUNES PARTLY DEPENDENT ON ITS SUCCESS.
KEITER

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Message Attributes

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